



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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POINT HOPE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL FIREARMS POSSESSION

Facing Ten Years in Federal Prison

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on January 28, 2008, Russell Jay Lane, a resident of Point Hope, Alaska, pleaded guilty in federal court in Anchorage to one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Lane, age 40, pleaded guilty before United States District Court Judge Timothy M. Burgess.

In connection with the guilty plea, Assistant United States Attorney Bryan Schroder advised the court that Lane, who has a previous conviction in Alaska for attempted sexual assault in the second degree, was found in June 2007 in possession of a firearm and numerous types and amounts of ammunition.

Judge Burgess will schedule sentencing for April or May 2008. The law provides for a total sentence of ten years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based upon the seriousness of the offense and the criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

Pending sentencing, the court continued Lane's release on conditions that include a curfew and electronic monitoring.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Alaska State Troopers, and North Slope Borough Police Department conducted the investigation that led to the prosecution of Lane.

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